

COR PRS co-chair recommendations (list for each workgroup in order of priority)

Overall recommendations:

- 1. Establish a steering committee comprised of the Council PRS co-chairs, DNR and workgroup representatives (mix of local gov't, industry and private citizens). The Steering committee would monitor implementation of planned projects, provide guidance and structure for future activities, and coordinate outreach and education on plastics recycling opportunities in Wisconsin.**
2. Continue to encourage establishment of a Plastics Recycling Corporation which would provide industry-led guidance to future plastics recycling initiatives and enable funding for projects through state agencies such as WEDC.

Bottles workgroup

Workgroup Recommendations: Focus on improving capture of PET & HDPE bottles and jars at public spaces; in particular special events, parks and sporting venues.

1. Increase number of recycling bins available for public spaces/events & parks. Establish a distribution network for barrels provided by beverage bottles through WI Beverage Association; publicize KAB grant opportunities; work with WIAA to provide recycling at large highly visible sporting events; promote public demand for recycling in public places.
2. Provide technical assistance to operations/custodial staff at public places. Create tip sheets for staff and event coordinators; provide same information to haulers and RU recycling program coordinators. Encourage self-reporting in online registry (to be created). Encourage haulers to provide certificates identifying "green" events.
3. Require all event permit applications to request recycling plan- already done in a few larger urban communities.

COR PRS Recommendation:

1. Work with WIAA to provide recycling at larger highly visible sporting events
2. Bin distribution program.
 - a. Set up a workgroup to arrange a distribution network for recycling barrels that can be provided from beverage bottlers through the Wisconsin Beverage Association.
 - b. Working through the Wisconsin Association of Fairs and other state-wide associations connected with special events, survey event coordinators to determine whether access to low cost bins would encourage recycling
 - c. Develop a pilot disbursement project including logistics (how to get bins to event coordinators) and an agreement template for recipients to commit to recycling at the event following certain best practices and to report on accomplishments.
3. Technical assistance. Coordinate with DNR and other interested parties of developing new materials or adapting existing outreach materials.
4. Inventory communities which require event recycling as part of an event permit, and post copies of the permits on the DNR website.
5. Create a platform for the public to voice demand for more opportunities to recycle. This would be a social media campaign where citizens would voice the need for a recycling bin in a specific location using Four Square, Twitter or Facebook.

Rigid Non-Bottles workgroup

Workgroup Recommendations: Focus on recovery of rigid plastic scrap from the industrial/commercial/institutional (ICI) sector comprising about 61% of the total rigid plastics disposed of in Wisconsin per year (2009 WI Waste Study) . Challenges include limited knowledge of what recycling currently occurs and impact of low bale quality on market demand.

1. Contract for a professional study to identify major generation sources and recovery opportunities in ICI sector and develop recommendations for specific actions to increase recovery and develop markets. Study to include identification of small, medium and large sector generators and distribution centers in WI, types and amounts of rigid scrap generated, flow of scrap materials .
2. Support the ARP initiatives to improve bale quality to increase demand for and value of recycled rigid plastics. Educate MRF owners and operators, recycling professionals, services providers through webinars, training and mentoring opportunities.
3. Support APR “Rigid Grocer Rigid Plastics” project. Work with trade associations to obtain baseline data for Wisconsin, identify potential markets. Consider requesting DNR enter into MOU similar to project with Flexible Film Packaging Group.
4. Additional recommendations:
 - a. Work with WEDC to release a Request for Expression of Interest (REI) regarding rigid plastics recycling
 - b. Form a WI Plastics Recycling Corporation opening up opportunities for funding via WEDC
 - c. Encourage establishment of systems to promote recycling markets such as business assistance programs.
 - d. Request or require reporting from the ICI sector
 - e. Revisit opportunities to increase recovery of residential rigid plastics.

COR PRS Recommendation:

1. Continue to explore implementing a WI Rigid Plastics Study to quantify amount, type and distribution of rigid plastics generated and recycled. Explore funding options with trade associations, DNR and/or other state agencies including WEDC.
2. Support APR initiatives to improve bale quality: Establish a workgroup to develop and implement an outreach/training program for Wisconsin processing facilities.
3. Continue to explore potential for a Wisconsin Rigid Grocer Rigid Plastics project through MOU with DNR, APR, the WI Grocer Association or individual grocer companies.

Plastic Film and Bags workgroup

Workgroup Recommendations:

Demonstration projects

1. *Distribution centers* – (Jim Feeney offered to manage this project and has several distributors in mind as potential partners)
 - a. Use existing transportation systems (backhauling, co-haul with fiber), consolidate at warehouses. Targeted to be cost neutral. Options include centers that could also collect from customers (e.g. dry cleaners).
2. *Industrial parks* (to be coordinated by WMEP with DNR Office of Business Support and Sustainability)
 - a. Establish one or more businesses at the park to serve as consolidation site or work with recyclers to provide a drop off container or “milk run” collection in a park.
3. Rural Recycling Centers (Dunn County selected as demonstration site)
 - a. Municipal site, MRF or recycler serves as drop off location
 - b. Include commercial and consumer/residential film scrap
4. Shopping Malls (demonstration project coordinated by Wisconsin WRAP project)
 - a. Store/tenant generated scrap with mall management overseeing collection
 - b. Shipping/receiving area used for consolidation and baling.
5. By-products synergy (project under consideration by WMEP)
 - a. Matching of waste from one facility with potential users at another facility, creating savings, environmental and social benefits.

- b. Web-based database system to manage data, track metrics

COR PRS Recommendation:

1. Continue with demonstration projects
 - a. Demonstrations (these will move ahead in tandem with the WRAP project).
 - Distribution centers
 - Rural recycling centers (drop off a recycling drop off locations, and possible partnership with small business and vocational training facilities)
 - Shopping malls
 - b. Continue to explore opportunities for demonstration projects at industrial parks. Identify potential partners (county government, chamber of commerce, industry partner) to gain a better understanding of opportunities, need, challenges and resources needed. .
2. Networking plastic scrap generators and markets
 - a. Explore greater promotion of the industry supported Plastics Markets online directory

Agricultural Plastic Film workgroup (sub group of Film and Bags)

Recommendations: Note: Two of the three recommendations advanced by the workgroup have already been implemented.

1. *Agricultural Film Webinar* (held on Oct 15, 2013). Hosted by UW Extension Solid and Hazardous Waste Education Center. Principle topics include end markets update, case studies of proven collection methods, baler demonstration preview, planning for local film collection programs.
2. *Baler demonstrations* (held at several sites in October). Conduct on-farm demonstration of baler options for smaller farm applications.
3. *Agricultural Film Recycling Manual*: Establish a team to coordinate development of a practical manual to assist coordinating agency staff, farmers and farm organizations in planning and implementing successful collection events. Address topics such as size of local farms, education/training needs, baler options.

COR PRS Recommendation:

1. Reconvene the workgroup at regular intervals (once every 4-6 months) to plan future activities and to identify team to coordinate development of the recycling manual.